

Preliminary Amendment  
National Stage of PCT/JP2003/015506

**REMARKS**

Claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 13, and 18 have been amended and claims 19 and 20 have been added, to place the claims in desired appropriate form for examination. Thus all of the claims are now in appropriate form, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to proceed with the examination of the pending claims.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may facilitate the further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

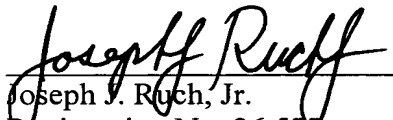
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
Joseph J. Ruch, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,579

Date: October 18, 2005